In the Claims

Claims are amended as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method of intelligent network service provision by a service providing first network element, comprising the steps of:

storing network user status information at said first network element;

receiving at the first network element a message from a second network element, said message associated with a change in network user status information;

updating said stored information; and

providing intelligent network services to said network user dependent ~~dependant~~ on said network user status information.

2. (original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

at said second network element, sending a message to each of a predetermined set of network elements, said message associated with a change in network user status information,

wherein said predetermined set includes said first network element.

3. (original) A method according to claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

at said second network element, selecting said predetermined set of network elements according to the change in network user status information.

4. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the change in network user status information is one of user activated, user deactivated, user deleted, user identifier code updated, user service screened and user service suppressed.

5. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said user identifier code is an international mobile subscriber identity.

6. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the first and second network elements are wireless network elements.

7. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the first network element is a service control function.

8. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the second network element is a home location register.

9. (original) A computer program for performing the method according to claim 1.

10. (original) A computer program according to claim 9 stored in machine readable form.

11. (original) A computer program according to claim 9 on a storage medium.

12. (currently amended) A method of sharing network user status information in a communications network, said method comprising the steps of:

storing network user status information at a service providing first network element at which intelligent network services are provided; and

sending a message to each of a predetermined set of network elements, said message associated with a change in network user status information.

13. (canceled)

14. (original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of: selecting said predetermined set of network elements according to the change in network user status information.

15. (original) A computer program for performing the method according to claim 12.

16. (original) A computer program according to claim 15 stored in machine readable form.

17. (original) A computer program according to claim 15 on a storage medium.

18. (currently amended) A service providing network element comprising:

a memory arranged to store network user status information;

a receiver arranged to receive a message from a second network element, said message associated with a change in network user status information;

a processor arranged to read said message and update said network user status information stored in said memory; and

a transmitter arranged to provide intelligent network services to a network user dependent on said network user status information.

19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended) A service providing network element according to claim 18 [[12]], said memory comprising a database.

21. (currently amended) A network element comprising:

a memory arranged to store network user status information; and

a transmitter arranged to send a message to each of a predetermined set of service providing network elements at which intelligent network services are provided, said message associated with a change in network user status information.

22. (original) A network element according to claim 21 comprising:

a selector arranged to select said predetermined set of service providing network elements according to said change in network user status information.

23. (currently amended) A communications network comprising:

a service providing network element comprising:

a memory arranged to store network user status information;

a receiver arranged to receive a message from a second network element, said message associated with a change in network user status information;

a processor arranged to read said message and update said network user status information stored in said memory;

a transmitter arranged to provide intelligent network services to a network user dependent on said network user status information;

and

a network element ~~according to claim 21~~ comprising:

a memory arranged to store network user status information; and

a transmitter arranged to send a message to each of a predetermined set of service providing network elements, said message associated with a change in network user status information.

24. (original) A communications network according to claim 23, wherein said network is a wireless network.

25. (original) A communications network according to claim 24, wherein said network is a cellular mobile network.